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Annex "A," Subparagraph 1o,

Sociological Background

LABOR RELATIONS AND ORGANIZATION

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675 The relations between employer and employees developed in Finland towards the end of the nineteenth century on a voluntary basis with labor contracts. In Finnish law a labor contract is an agreement under the terms of which one party, the worker, undertakes to work for a second party, the employer, in return for remuneration and under the direction and super-
467 vision of the latter. The first labor organizations were born around the same time, and in 1907 a central body, the Organization of Finnish Trade Unions, was established. During the Russian revolution however, it became Communist controlled, and inner friction resulted. In 1930 the whole organization was abolished by the

government, and a new one, the Central League of Finnish Trade Unions (Suomen Ammattiyhdistysten Keskusliitto, abbreviated to SAK), theoretically independent of all political parties, was established.

Simultaneously with the workers, the employers began to organize, and in 1917 individual branches were gathered under the Central Federation of Finnish Employers (Suomen Työnantajain Keskusliitto, STK). Its most recent membership was 2,374, as compared to a total of 227,762 workers.

Employers, however, were reluctant to enter into collective agreements, for they considered the trade unions to be too much under political influence. But since the war years a noteworthy change has occurred, and in 1944 the Central Federation of Finnish Employers and the Central

467 The League of the Trade Unions is a powerful factor in the economic and political life of the [665] country. Officially non-political, it is under the influence of the Social Democratic Party and the Communists are striving to gain control of the central body as well as of the individual unions. Virtually all industrial workers belong to a trade union. In 1950 the trade unions under the Central League and the number of their members were as follows:

Union of Automobile Workers	5,232
Union of Workers in the Foodstuff Industry	8,051
Union of Hotel and Restaurant Personnel	3,149
Union of Goldsmiths and Jewellers	1,101
Union of Male Folk School Teachers	215
Union of Workers in Real Estate	1,722
Union of Workers in the Book Industry	8,143
Union of Communal Workers	18,767

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Union of Workers in the Textile Industry	12, 325
Union of Workers in the Glass and China Industries	3, 250
Union of Workers in Commerce	11, 634
Union of Pilots and Lighthouse Workers	517
Union of Officials in Rural Communes	754
Union of Agricultural and Seasonal Workers	12, 674
Union of Mechanics	341
Union of Seamen	6, 320
Union of Metal Workers	41, 660
Union of Nurses in Mental Hospitals	1, 551
Union of Bricklayers	3, 830
Union of Musicians	1, 371
Union of Workers in Leather, Footwear and Rubber Industries	6, 045
Union of Secondary School Teachers	107
Union of Workers in the Paper Industry	15, 498

7 Union of Policemen	3,900
Union of Postmen	2,977
Union of Workers in the Wood Industry	19,320
Union of Construction Workers	22,145
Union of Railroad Workers	15,511
Union of Socail Democratic Journalists	109
Union of Divers	269
Union of Customs Workers	615
Union of Workers	8,562
Union of Workers in the Clothing Industry	4,101
Union of State Officials	745
Union of Prison Officials	1,241
Union of Engine Drivers	4,190
Union of Journalists	87
Union of Work Supervisors	354
Aggregate membership	248,383

The aims of the Central League of Trade

Unions are stated as follows: 1) to help the workers the organize themselves; 2) to supervise the activities of local unions; 3) to help in the establishment of local and national trade unions and to promote their co-operation; 4) to support the democratic judicial system; 5) to strive for developing social legislation in a direction favorable for the workers; 6) to work for economic democracy in production; 7) to promote the general knowledge of the workers on questions pertaining to national and international movement of trade unions and to the development of better economic, social and technical conditions; 8) to act as a representative organ for the workers in trade unions; 9) to propagandize on behalf of the trade union movement, both orally and in books and leaflets; 10) to help the trade unions both materially and morally in their strivings to

promote the status of the workers; 11) to collect statistical data on the status of the workers in Finland; and 12) to co-operate with other associations at home and abroad which hold similar aims and principles.

In practice the Central League has a definite left-wing political coloring, and it can be expected to support the undertakings of the government as long as the left-wing parties are represented in it. During the last war its attitude towards national defense was definitely positive, but lately the Communists have tried to gain control over the unions. Traditionally, labor has been well stabilized, but under actual and possible Communist influence there is likely to be unrest and political insecurity in the country.

The white collar workers, who generally do not hold left-wing political views, are only very

467 superficially represented in the Central League. They have their own association, the Central Federation of Intellectual Workers whose aims are: 1) to secure the essential working conditions for intellectual workers; 3) to promote the feeling of solidarity between intellectual workers; and 4) to promote the professional skills and the good citizenship of intellectual workers.

In the beginning of the year 1950 the societies belonging to the Central Federation of Intellectual Workers and their memberships were as follows:

	Membership
Society of Teachers in Business Schools	92
Society of Communal Officials	6,100
Society of Teachers in Handicrafts	348
Society of Forestry Technicians	2,000

467 Association of Bank Officials 1,506

Association of Officials in the Woodwork Industry 38

Association of Foremen in the Book Industry 468

Association of Pharmaceutists 2,003

Association of Primary School Teachers 10,880

Association of Chemists 157

Association of Jurists 1,124

Association of Kindergarten Teachers 560

Association of Airline Officials 79

Association of Business Executives 5,358

Association of Gymnastic Therapeutists 99

Association of Foresters 1,089

Association of Music Teachers 390

Association of Art Teachers 205

Association of Woodworkers 450

Association of Journalists 684

Association of Industrial Officials	2,276
Association of Insurance Officials	1,149
Office of Composers' Copyright Association	61
Association of Officials in State Institutions	1,393
Association of State Officials	20,092
Association of Swedish Bank Officials	550
Association of Swedish Primary School Teachers	1,282
Association of Swedish Foresters	236
Association of Swedish Officials in Industry and Commerce	2,105
Association of Swedish Insurance Officials	300
Aggregate membership	63,074

The Federation of Intellectual Workers has not had any influence worth mentioning on national politics, nor does it exercise any pressure in acquiring new members, as do the trade unions.